

# Spot Request Instructions

## 1. Overview

Site-specific (spot) forecasts are issued by WFOs in support of wildfire management, and natural resource management. These forecasts aid the land management and fire control agencies in protecting life and property during wildland fires, hazardous fuels reduction, and rehabilitation and restoration of natural resources. Spot forecasts are also issued for hazardous materials incidents, Search and Recovery and other threats to public safety.

## 2. Open the Spot Request Page

- The **Spot Request** link (written in red) is located on the [National Weather Service, Sacramento Fire Weather Page](#). Once on the main page, select the "**Submit a new Spot Request**" link.

National Weather Service Forecast Office  
Sacramento, CA

Home News Organization FAQs Search [ ] NWS AL

Get Local Forecast for:  
Enter location... GO  
Search Help

XML RSS Feeds  
Current Hazards  
Watches / Warnings  
Outlooks  
NOAA Watch  
Local Outlook  
Current Conditions  
Observations

Select Interface: ☒ Fire Weather Zones ☐ Point Forecast Matrix ☐ Digital Point Forecast ☐ FARSITE ☐ Obs/RAWS [Activity Planner](#)

Surrounding Offices: Eureka | Medford | Reno | Monterey | Hanford

Zoom Out <<<

**Spot Request** Fire Status Forecasts/Outlooks Fuels Weather Tools Admin

Fire Weather Planning Forecast last issued: **Fri Feb 3 630 PST 2012**

Click a location on the Map below OR Select a Fire Weather Zone from the drop down box OR enter a lat/lon location in decimal degrees.

Fire Weather Zones: [ ] Go Or Lat: 40.021 Lon: -120.045 Go

[Back to the Sacramento Fire Weather Page](#)

**SACRAMENTO  
SPOT FORECASTS**  
for  
**Wednesday  
Feb 1 2012**  
[CALENDAR](#)

**Submit a new Spot Request**

REDDING  
CHICO  
YUBA CITY  
CITRUS HEIGHTS  
SACRAMENTO  
SANTA ROSA  
FAIRFIELD  
LODI  
CONCORD  
STOCKTON  
SAN FRANCISCO  
FREMONT  
SAN JOSE  
MODESTO  
MERCED

NWS/NOAA/DOC - 12:24 pm PST 2/3/12  
Pending Question Complete

Name	Ignition Time	Status
<a href="#">Wagner Ridge FB</a>	9:00 am PST	<a href="#">COMPLETE at 5:37 am PST</a>
<a href="#">South 108 Unit 2902</a>	9:15 am PST	<a href="#">COMPLETE at 6:04 am PST</a>
<a href="#">San Hedrin Tractor Piles</a>	10:00 am PST	<a href="#">COMPLETE at 6:35 am PST</a>

[Track forecasts sent from AWIPS](#)

### 3. Filling out the Spot Request Form

- Enter the information needed into each block for your burn, note required fields are indicated in **RED**. Weather observations are not indicated as required on the Spot Forecast Request page, but they are **desired** for an accurate Spot Forecast.
- Accurate Location is essential**: Enter LAT/LON in decimal format; ex. 38.0477 / -119.0930 or via degrees, 39 16 07 / -119 56 18.
- On-site Weather Observations are very important**, especially if there is no RAWS nearby the burn. Peak heating and early morning observation times are the most important. We will also assume that your wind observations are **eye-level winds**, unless you are using a RAWS or state otherwise.
- The Remarks Section should be used for any additional information (**the more details the better!**), especially "**Go, No Go**" weather thresholds for the burn. In addition please provide feedback on weather forecast. For example, relative humidity forecast too low by 5% and wind direction off by 50 degrees. This feedback is extremely important for us to improve the forecast.
- Requests should be submitted through dispatch centers or staffed offices, so forecasters have a contact point to confirm the information has been received.

#### SACRAMENTO SPOT FORECAST REQUEST

Required Elements in RED (\*)

PROJECT NAME		REQUESTING AGENCY						
(*)Project Name: San Hedrin Tractor Pile		(*)Requesting Agency: USFS MNF						
<input type="radio"/> Wildfire <input type="radio"/> HAZMAT		(*)Requesting Official: MNFECC Dispatch						
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Prescribed Fire <input type="radio"/> SAR		(*)Phone Number: (530) 934-7758 Ext.						
Ignition Time: 1305 <input type="radio"/> Pacific Local Time		FAX Number: (530) 934-2326						
Date: 2/3/12		Contact Person: Jane Q. Forester						
REASON FOR SPOT FORECAST REQUEST								
(*)Must choose either Wildfire or one of the Non-Wildfire reasons								
<input type="radio"/> Wildfire								
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Non-Wildfire								
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Under the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services (USFS, BLM, NPS, USFWS, BIA).								
<input type="radio"/> State, tribal or local fire agency working in coordination with a federal participant in the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services.								
<input type="radio"/> Essential to public safety, e.g. due to the proximity of population centers or critical infrastructure.								
For NWS Spot forecast policy, see section 4.0 in NWS Instruction 10-401 at <a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm</a>								
LOCATION		FUEL						
(*)Lat: 39 38 19		Type: Brush						
(*)Lon: 122 39 20		<input type="radio"/> Sheltering						
7.5' Quad:		<input type="radio"/> Full						
Legal (T/R): T21N/R7W/SEC26.3 CA		<input type="radio"/> Partial						
Top Bottom		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unsheltered						
Elevation: 2800 2000								
Drainage: salt creek								
(*)Aspect: North								
Size: 15 (Acres)								
*Enter Lat/Lon (WGS84/NAD83 preferred), Legal(T/R) also acceptable.								
OBSERVATIONS								
Place	Elev	Time	Wind	Temp	Wetbulb	RH	Dewpt.	Sky/Weather
on-site	2800	0900	calm	47	39	49	23	clear
on-site	2800	1500	north 0-2	51	45	64	32	overcast
PRIMARY FORECAST ELEMENTS				REMARKS				
TDA TNT TMR (Today, Tonight, Tomorrow)				Need forecast by 0700.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sky / Weather					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temperature					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Relative Humidity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20-ft Wind					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ridge Top Wind					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chance of Wetting Rain					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lightning Activity Level					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Smoke Dispersion					
Submit Request				Cancel Request		Clear Form		

Decimals or  
degrees, minutes,  
seconds

Any additional  
info that may  
be needed

- Once the form is completed, select the **"Submit Request"** icon at the bottom.
- Please call the National Weather Service in Sacramento (916) 979-3047, to confirm the request was received.

#### 4. Completed Spot Request

- Once request is received, the fire weather forecaster will: 1) complete wildfire spot requests as soon as possible, 2) use information given in the remarks section to determine timeline, or 3) may call back for more clarification.
- On the Spot Request Page, your request will show up as a **green square** icon on the map, this means it is still **Pending**. **The user should select the link for his/her spot request while still pending in order to confirm the location and all other requested information is correct.**
- Once the request is **complete**, it will show up as a **red square** icon on the map, and the Status Message will display the completed time.

[Back to the Sacramento Fire Weather Page](#)

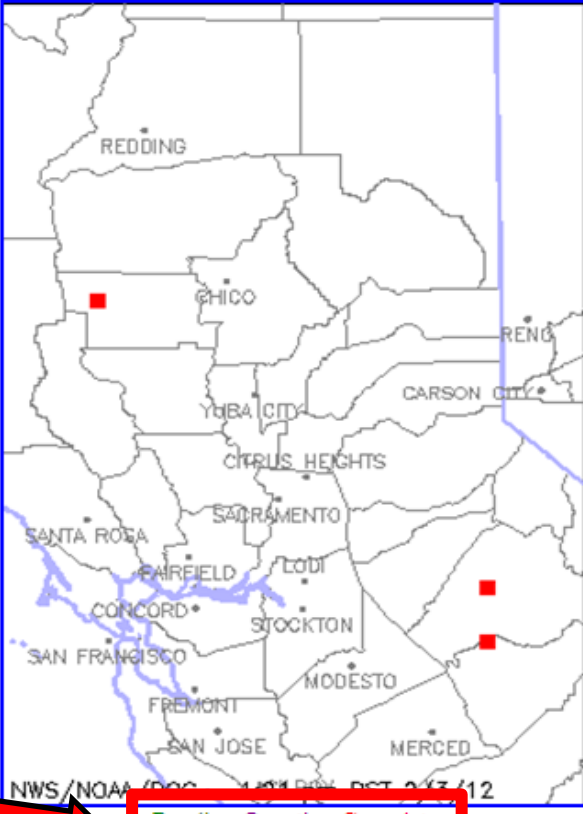
## SACRAMENTO SPOT FORECASTS

for  
**Wednesday  
Feb 1 2012**

[←](#)
[→](#)

[CALENDAR](#)

[Submit a new Spot Request](#)



- Color scheme of square icon on map
- Questions/Feedback will be purple

[Pending](#)
[Question](#)
[Complete](#)

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[Track forecasts sent from AWIPS](#)

- The Spot Request Forecast will contain a general discussion section, and the forecast of the submitted weather elements broken into 12 hour blocks.
- The final section of the Spot Forecast is the requested "Feedback" page. Please take the time to fill out this section with feedback, good or bad. If the forecast is unrepresentative, you should provide feedback so we can correct or re-initialize the forecast. **We need your feedback to help improve the forecasts.**

## 5. Ongoing Fire Spot Requests

- When multiple spot requests will be submitted for ongoing wildfires or prescribed burns, try using the **"Spot Request" calendar** to save yourself some time. The "Calendar link is located below the date (see figure above).
  - **Note: The webpage will only let you request a "wildfire" spot for the current day. So individual wildfire spot requests will need to be submitted daily.**
- Once you select the calendar link, a 30-day calendar view will be displayed with all previous and/or future spot requests.

[Back to the Sacramento Fire Weather Page](#)

[earlier dates](#)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<a href="#">Jan 15</a> 1 Spot	<a href="#">Jan 16</a> 1 Spot	<a href="#">Jan 17</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Jan 18</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Jan 19</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Jan 20</a> 1 Spot	<a href="#">Jan 21</a>
<a href="#">Jan 22</a>	<a href="#">Jan 23</a> 2 Spots	<a href="#">Jan 24</a>	<a href="#">Jan 25</a>	<a href="#">Jan 26</a>	<a href="#">Jan 27</a>	<a href="#">Jan 28</a>
<a href="#">Jan 29</a>	<a href="#">Jan 30</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Jan 31</a> 1 Spot	<a href="#">Feb 1</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 2</a>	<a href="#">Feb 3</a>	<a href="#">Feb 4</a>
<a href="#">Feb 5</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 6</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 7</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 8</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 9</a> 3 Spots	<a href="#">Feb 10</a>	<a href="#">Feb 11</a>
<a href="#">Feb 12</a>	<a href="#">Feb 13</a>	<a href="#">Feb 14</a>	<a href="#">Feb 15</a>	<a href="#">Feb 16</a>	<a href="#">Feb 17</a>	<a href="#">Feb 18</a>

[later dates](#)

- Select the desired day and then select your previous spot request. At the bottom of the Spot Forecast page is the link, **"Copy Info to New Spot Request"**. Select this link to quickly fill out the spot request when the majority of the information is the same.